UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/51/165
S/1996/435
14 June 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Item 71 of the preliminary list*
GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 13 June 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a statement by the Presidency of the European Union on the removal of nuclear warheads from Ukrainian territory.

I would be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 71 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) F. Paolo FULCI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/51/50.

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ANNEX

[Original: English and French]

Statement by the Presidency of the European Union on the removal of nuclear warheads from Ukrainian territory, issued at Brussels on 12 June 1996

The Presidency warmly welcomes President Kouchma's announcement that all nuclear warheads have been removed from Ukrainian territory. Ukraine has thus fulfilled the obligation undertaken in January 1994 when she signed the Trilateral Agreement with the Russian Federation and the United States.

The Presidency believes that the timely achievement of this important development is a further demonstration of Ukrainian commitment to disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation. It represents a significant complement to the earlier decision by Ukraine to accede to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as a non-nuclear-weapon State.